



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

In re application of : Smith et al.)
Serial No.: 10/684,917)
Group Art: Not yet assigned)
For: CONDUIT WITH HEATED WICK)
Filed: October 14, 2003)
Atty. Docket No.: 1171/39464B/99B-CIP)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 3, 2003.

Tiffany E. Sexton
Tiffany E. Sexton

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's duty of candor under 37 CFR §1.56 and in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, Applicant is not aware of any material prior art but, in an abundance of caution and candor, Applicant submits the present Information Disclosure Statement and the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are included herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date and before receipt of the first Office Action on the merits and constitutes a bona fide attempt to comply with 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

JP 2000-24111 is not in the English language, therefore, attached is an English translation of same.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97, the presentation of this information shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR §1.56 exists, or as an admission that the information cited in this statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56.

Should the Examiner believe a fee is required, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized and requested to charge the fee to the deposit account of the undersigned firm, Account No. 20-1495.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 3, 2003

By: Raiford A. Blackstone, Jr.

Raiford A. Blackstone, Jr., Reg. No. 25,156
Linda L. Palomar, Reg. No. 37,903
TREXLER, BUSHNELL, GIANGIORGI,
BLACKSTONE & MARR, LTD.
105 W. Adams Street, 36th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603
(312) 704-1890

DEC 8 8 2003

Sheet 1 of 2

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)								ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1171/39464B 99B	SERIAL NO. 10/684,917						
								APPLICANT: Smith et al.							
								FILING DATE: October 14, 2003				GROUP Not yet assigned			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6	3	7	8	5	2	0					
	6	4	7	4	3	3	5	11/05/02	Lammers			
	6	0	9	8	6	1	5	08/08/00	Lloyd et al.			
	4	7	7	3	4	1	0	09/27/88	Blackmer et al.			
	5	6	1	1	3	3	2	03/18/87	Bono			
	5	6	3	0	4	0	9	05/20/97	Bono et al.			
	5	7	6	9	0	7	1	06/23/98	Turnbull			
	5	9	6	4	2	1	9	10/12/99	Pekka			
	6	0	2	9	6	6	0	02/29/00	Calluaud et al.			
	5	9	9	2	4	1	3	11/30/99	Martin, Jr. et al.			
	6	0	5	0	2	6	0	04/18/00	Daniell et al.			
	6	1	0	5	5	7	6	08/22/00	Clawson et al.			
	6	3	4	9	7	2	2	02/26/02	Gradon et al.			
	6	3	6	7	4	7	2	04/09/02	Koch			
	6	4	1	2	4	8	1	07/02/02	Bienvenu et al.			
	5	4	1	1	4	7	4	05/02/95	Ott et al.			
	6	0	7	8	7	3	0	06/20/00	Huddart et al.			
	6	1	6	7	8	8	3	01/02/01	Beran et al.			
	4	3	2	7	7	1	8	05/04/82	Cronenberg			
	4	7	2	2	3	3	4	02/02/88	Blackmer et al.			
	4	7	7	1	7	7	0	09/20/88	Artemenko et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER				DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
										YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

DEC 08 2003

Sheet 2 of 2Form PTO-1449
(Rev. 9-93)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO. 1171/39359B
99B

SERIAL NO. 10/684,917

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT: Smith et al.

FILING DATE: October 14, 2003

GROUP Not yet assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4	8	2	5	8	6	3	05/02/89	Dittmar et al.			
		5	4	6	2	0	4	8	10/31/95	Lambert et al.			
		5	5	8	6	5	5	1	12/24/96	Hilliard			
		5	7	0	4	3	4	4	01/06/98	Cole			
		6	1	1	6	2	3	5	09/12/00	Walters et al.			
		6	3	6	3	9	3	0	03/02/02	Clawson et al.			
		6	5	1	6	7	9	8	02/11/03	Davies			
		6	5	3	6	4	2	8	03/25/03	Smith et al.			
		6	5	3	9	9	3	7	04/01/03	Haveri			
		3	9	1	2	7	9	5	10/14/75	Jackson			
		6	5	8	4	9	7	2	07/01/03	McPhee			
		5	0	4	4	3	6	1	09/03/91	Werner et al.			
		5	3	9	2	7	7	0	02/28/95	Clawson et al.			
		4	0	4	8	9	9	3	09/20/77	Dobritz			
		4	2	6	5	2	3	5	05/05/81	Fukunaga			
		4	3	3	7	8	0	0	07/06/82	Carlson et al.			
		4	4	6	3	7	5	5	08/07/84	Suzuki			
		4	6	8	2	0	1	0	07/21/87	Drapeau et al.			
		4	8	0	8	2	0	1	02/28/89	Kertzman			
		4	9	6	7	7	4	4	11/06/90	Chua			
		5	2	3	3	9	9	6	08/10/93	Coleman et al.			
		5	5	0	1	2	1	2	03/26/96	Psaros			
		5	0	4	2	5	0	0	08/27/91	Norlien et al.			
		5	2	8	4	1	6	0	02/08/94	Dryden			
		5	8	9	4	8	3	9	04/20/99	Rosenkoetter et al.			
		6	3	9	4	1	4	5	05/28/02	Bally			
		5	9	8	3	8	9	6	11/16/99	Fukunaga et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

										CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
												YES	NO
	20	0	0	2	4	1	1	1	01/25/00	Japan		X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

		United States Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0195104 entitled Apparatus for Increasing the Humidification of the Air Stream Breathed by a Patient, Published on December 26, 2002, Inventor: Fini et al.
		United States Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0028139 entitled Pneumoperitoneum Gas Heating and Humidifying Apparatus and Device for Inducing Pneumoperitoneum, Published on February 6, 2003, Inventor: Inoue

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.